

Message Text

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PAGE 01 RABAT 02559 120454Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /022 W
-----121930Z 042580 /43

R 111530Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY RABAT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1851
COMMANDANT NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY CAIRO

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR OTRA MILI MO
SUBJECT: NWC 11 VISITS MOROCCO

1. WE JUDGE NWC GROUP 11 VISIT TO MOROCCO MAY 4-9 AS HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL FOR BOTH EMBASSY AND VISITORS.
2. GOM WAS HELPFUL AND ENTHUSIASTIC. EMBASSY ACTION OFFICER'S TENTATIVE SCHEDULE WAS IN FACT ACCEPTED ALMOST IN FULL BY GOM. MAJOR ELEMENTS OF PROGRAM WERE:

A. BRIEFING BY FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS:

DIRECTORS FOR AMERICAN AND EUROPEAN AFFAIRS AND FOR AFRICAN AND ASIAN AFFAIRS PRESENTED GOM POSITIONS ON PRINCIPAL FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES, FOLLOWED BY FRANK EXCHANGE OF QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

B. VISIT TO ROYAL MOROCCAN AIR FORCE BASE AND SCHOOL:

TOUR OF RMAF BASE AT MARRAKECH INCLUDED NEWLY ESTABLISHED RMAF HIGH SCHOOL AS WELL AS AIR ACADEMY. BASE COMMANDER CONDUCTED INFORMATIVE BRIEFING. VISITORS SAW HIGH SCHOOL CLASSES IN SESSION, MAINTENANCE CLASS AREAS, ACADEMY LABS
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AND CLASSROOMS, AND FLIGHT LINE. WHILE GROUP WILL, OF COURSE, WRITE ITS OWN REPORT, CONTROL OFFICER RECEIVED NUMEROUS COMMENTS COMPARING THE VISIT TO MARRAKECH VERY FAVORABLY WITH EARLIER VISIT TO SIMILAR INSTALLATION IN ALGERIA.

C. OTHER ACTIVITIES:

VISITORS PAID COURTESY CALL ON AND ATTENDED LUNCHEON HOSTED BY THE INSPECTOR OF INFANTRY/COMMANDER OF THE ROYAL GUARD, GENERAL SEFRIQUI, LAID WREATH ON TOMB OF MOHAMED V, ATTENDED LUNCHEON HOSTED BY THE GOVERNOR OF EL JADIDA PROVINCE, AND TOURED MARRAKECH AND CASABLANCA.

3. IN SUM, GROUP WAS AFFORDED A VERY CORDIAL, IF LOW-KEY AND INFORMAL WELCOME. VISIT ALSO PROVIDED OUR MILITARY ATTACHES, PARTICULARLY THE ACCOMPANYING CONTROL OFFICER, ACCESS TO MOROCCAN MILITARY PERSONNEL IN UNUSUALLY OPEN ATMOSPHERE AND LARGE NUMBERS.

4. OUR CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH MOROCCO MILITATES AGAINST ITS ESCALATING NWC VISITS INTO A MAJOR FACET OF OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS. HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE WE CAN ASSURE FUTURE GROUPS OF A CONTINUING WARM WELCOME FROM THE GOM AND ENDORSE KEEPING MOROCCO ON THE NWC ITINERARY IN THE COMING YEARS.
ANDERSON

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